

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 AGR-05 NSC-05

SS-15 TAR-01 OES-03 AF-06 /094 W

----- 050804

R 071107Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBSSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6562

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBSSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBSSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2736

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, IS

SUBJECT: ISRAEL'S TRADE AGREEMENT WITH EUROPEAN
COMMUNITIES

REF: TEL AVIV 2588; EC BRUSSELS 4040

1. MFA (MOSHE ALON) CONFIRMS THAT FORMAL SIGNATURE OF NEW
EC/ISRAEL TRADE AGREEMENT WILL TAKE PLACE IN BRUSSELS ON
MAY 11. FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON WILL SIGN FOR ISRAEL, AND
ISRAELIS BELIEVE THAT RATIFICATION WILL BE COMPLETED IN
TIME FOR AGREEMENT TO ENTER INTO FORCE ON JULY 1.

2. COMMENT: GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN AND PRESS ARE ATTACHING
MAJOR POLITICAL AS WELL AS ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE TO NEW
AGREEMENT WITH EC. THEY CLAIM THAT IT NOT ONLY WILL
REPRESENT FREE-TRADE AREA WITH IMPORTANT TRADE BENEFITS BUT
WILL ALSO PROVIDE IN TIME ACCESS TO EC FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
AND GREATER COOPERATION IN INDUSTRIAL AND SCIENTIFIC FIELDS.
ISRAELIS ALSO SEE NEW AGREEMENT AS MEANS OF REDUCING IMPACT
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OF ARAB BOYCOTT, OF EASING PRESENT SOLUTION

AND GENERALLY ACHIEVING BETTER BALANCE IN ISRAEL'S EXTERNAL
POLITICAL RELATIONS. OFFICIALS HEREARE VERY PLEASED, AND,
SOMEWHAT SURPRISED, THAT EUROPEANS HAVE AGREED TO MOVE
AHEAD WITH AGREEMENT DESPITE LAGGING NEGOTIATONS WITH
MAHGREB AND OTHER MEDITERRANEAN STATES. FOREIGN MINISTER
ALLO, WHO HAS JUST COMPLETD OFFICIAL VISITS TO FRANCE
AND GERMANY, PRESUMABLY WILL GET SOME CREDIT FOR THIS
HAPPY DEVELOPMENT.
VELIOTES

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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